



Recommended Allowable Take of Young Peregrine Falcons for Falconry Purposes in Montana in 2009.

The following regulations will guide allowable take of young peregrines falcons during 2009.

Level of Take¹:

The level of take will be no more than 5 young peregrines during 2009.

¹If using the 5% allocation authorized under federal guidelines, the most recent 3-year intensive survey effort (2006-2009-2012) will be used to establish that allowable level of take. No take will be authorized if the number of documented active nests falls below 50 as indicated by the 3-year survey protocol.

Regulations Governing Take:

1. Currently licensed Montana resident general or master falconers will be required to submit a permit application for the limited opportunity to take a wild peregrine falcon. If more than 3 persons apply, a drawing will be held to determine successful applicants and issuance of permits.
2. Take by nonresidents is prohibited.
3. The limit will be one peregrine falcon from the wild for each successful applicant.
4. Season dates are June 1 to July 15.
5. Young may not be removed from their aeries before they are 5 days of age.
6. To avoid premature fledging of nestlings, aeries should not be entered when young are 28 days of age or more.
7. At least one nestling must be left in each aerie prior to fledging.
8. A fledgling may be trapped in the vicinity of the aerie.
9. Each falconer who takes a nestling from the wild must report the sex and legal description (T R $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ S) or GPS coordinates (e.g. UTM, decimal degrees) of the nest location of each bird to FWP (nearest regional headquarters) and to the USFWS within 5 days of take of the bird. A photo of the nesting cliff will be provided to FWP.
10. A falconer who takes a nestling from the wild must band it with a permanent, non-reusable, numbered Fish and Wildlife Service band (provided with the permit) and must present the banded bird for inspection by FWP personnel within 5 days of capture.
11. For potential stable isotope analyses and law enforcement purposes, the falconer will present the bird to FWP after the bird is 30 days old and two breast feathers will be plucked. The feathers will be shipped or mailed to the Division of Migratory Bird Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 North Fairfax

- Drive, Mail Stop 4107; Arlington, Virginia 22203-1610. When submitting the feathers, the permittee should report the legal description (T R ¼ ¼ S) or GPS coordinates (e.g. UTM, decimal degrees) of where the nestling was taken from the wild.
12. Birds taken may only be transferred between currently licensed Montana raptor permit holders and may not be transferred out of state without FWP approval.
 13. The following nests will be prohibited from take due to high value wildlife viewing opportunities, ongoing agency-approved research efforts, or to meet other management objectives.
 - Blodgett and Painted Rock aeries in the Bitterroot
 - Johnsrud aerie on the Blackfoot River
 - Frenchtown aerie on the Clark Fork River
 - Woods Bay aerie near Flathead Lake
 - Coulter (or Meriwether) aerie on the Missouri River
 - Sacrifice Cliff aerie on the Yellowstone River near BillingsFalconers requiring more precise location information should contact FWP.
 14. Take will be prohibited from that area of Montana lying east of the following line: Beginning at the Montana-Alberta border at the northern initiation of Interstate 15 (I-15), south along I-15 to Great Falls, then east along MT HWY 87 to its junction with MT HWY 191 at Eddie's Corner, then south along HWY 191 to Big Timber and its junction with Interstate 90 (I-90), then east and south along I-90 to the Montana-Wyoming border.
 15. For regulations on tribal lands, national parks or federal wildlife refuges, please contact the appropriate tribal government or federal agency.
 16. The sale, barter or exchange of birds from the wild is prohibited.